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DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS
FACULTY OF MEDICINE, OSAKA UNIVERSITY

Joancho-33, Kitaku, Osaka, Japan.

May 25, 1961

Professor J. Lederberg
Department of Genetics,
Medical Center,
Stanford University,
Palo Alto, California, U. S. A.

Dear Prof. Lederberg :-

On May 23rd, the Committee of Japan Academy of Science for promoting science in Japan decided to accept our application for inviting you as a visiting professor from overseas in the period of 1961. The formal inviting letter will be sent you before long.

We, ourselves including all of your Japanese friends, are very much pleased if you could accept the invitation from the committee. Many geneticists and workers in the relating fields are also expecting to attend to your lecture.

If we could expect your schedule of visit which you have suggested to Kikkawa on spring of last year, the time of your visit will be September of 1961, and the expected period of your stay will be about 40 days. The committee will take care with honor for your expense of a double-trip flight between Hawaii and Tokyo, and also the expense for staying in Japan. Therefore, we have started to get funds for Mrs. Lederberg for her travelling expenses and others. If you could accept the invitation, we will be pleased very much.

The reason for delay to get the answer from the committee was mainly due to a limitting budget of the committee. We hope you would understand the difficult situation.

Prof. M. Burnet and many scientists such as Drs. G. Stent, C. Auerbach and A. Hollaender have visited universities and institutes of this country. Dr. J. Watson will also visit here on this fall. Please come and see us before Japan is completely deformed by western fashions. Beautiful sights of Japan also wait you.

Recently we are currently working on a temperate phage named tau which was found by Mr. Hakura of this laboratory. It forms plaque only on F⁻ but not on male strains of K-12; it does transfer the F⁻ chromosome into F⁻ recipient by cell to cell contact, and the Hfr mutant has isolated from it.

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At the same time, Mr. Sugino of this laboratory found that resistant factors of enteric bacteria isolated by Dr. Mitsuhashi's group also transfer the host chromosome by cell to cell contact. These phenomena seem interesting for us in connecting with the origin of F and the mechanism of transfer of chromosome, but the data are quite complicated. We are very much interested to hear your opinion on the results, and we hope to discuss about them when you could visit Osaka.

Please send our best regards to Mrs. Lederberg,

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Hideo Kikkawa".

Hideo Kikkawa
Professor

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Yukinori Hirota".

Yukinori Hirota